

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information processing system comprising:
a storage unit storing information; and
a control unit,

5 wherein said control unit searches locating information
for locating where data exists, and judges whether or not the
data located by the locating information comes under a
predetermined category, and

10 said storage unit , when the data is judged to come under
the predetermined category, stores the locating information to
collect pieces of locating information for locating where the
data exist.

- 15 2. An information processing system according to claim
1, further comprising a communication unit for accessing a
network, or a communication connection module through which said
communication unit is connected,

20 wherein said control unit searches the locating
information retained in other information processing system on
the network.

3. An information processing system according to claim
2, wherein said communication unit receives a selection criterion
for selecting the data and

25 said control unit judges whether or not the data is
coincident with the selection criterion and collects pieces of
locating information tracing to the data coincident with the

selection criterion.

4. An information processing system according to claim 1, further comprising an input unit,

5 wherein said input unit receives an input of the selection criterion for selecting the data, and

said control unit judges whether or not the data is coincident with the selection criterion and collects pieces of locating information tracing to the data coincident with the selection criterion.

5. An information processing system according to claim 2, wherein said communication unit receives a request for collecting the locating information from a terminal device connected to the network, and

said control unit gets the collected locating information displayed on said terminal device.

6. An information processing system according to claim 1, further comprising a display unit for displaying the information, or a first connection module through which said display unit is connected,

wherein said control unit gets the collected locating information displayed on said display unit.

7. An information processing system according to claim 5, wherein said control unit searches character information

related to the data, and gets the character information displayed in a way of being combined with the locating information.

8. An information processing system according to claim
5 1, wherein categories of the data are still image data, sound data, animated image data, text data, or combinations thereof.

9. An information processing system according to claim
1, further comprising:

10 an input unit;

a display unit displaying information, or a first
connection module through which said display unit is connected;
and

15 a sound output unit outputting sounds, or a second
connection module through which said sound output unit is
connected,

wherein said control unit, when commanded to output the
data via said input unit, gets the content described by the data
outputted to said display unit or said sound output unit.

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10. An information processing system according to claim
9, wherein said control unit gets a plurality of contents
consecutively outputted, which are located by plural pieces of
locating information collected.

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11. A terminal device comprising:

a communication unit accessing a network, or a

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communication connection module through which said
communication unit is connected; and

a control unit,

wherein said control unit requests a server on the network to collect pieces of locating information for locating where data exist, the data located by the locating information coming under a predetermined category, thus collecting the locating information.

12. A terminal device according to claim 11, further comprising a display unit displaying the information, or a first connection module through which said display unit is connected,

wherein said control unit gets the collected locating information displayed on said display unit.

13. A terminal device according to claim 11, further comprising:

an input unit;

a display unit displaying information, or a first connection module through which said display unit is connected; and

a sound output unit outputting sounds, or a second connection module through which said sound output unit is connected,

wherein said control unit, when commanded to output the data via said input unit, gets the content described by the data outputted to said display unit or said sound output unit.

14. A terminal device according to claim 13, wherein said control unit gets a plurality of contents consecutively outputted, which are located by plural pieces of locating information collected.

15. A system comprising:

a search unit searching content data corresponding to predetermined conditions;

a sequence determining unit determining a sequence of reproducing the content data searched; and

a reproduction control unit controlling the reproduction of the content data in accordance with the reproducing sequence.

16. A system according to claim 15, wherein the content data are retained in other system accessible via a network.

17. A system according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is specified by a user.

18. A system according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is to specify a specific genre of the content.

19. A system according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is to specify a specific data category.

20. A system according to claim 15, wherein the content data are stream data.

21. A method of collecting locating information for
5 indicating a location of data, comprising:
searching locating information for locating where data exists;
judging whether or not the data comes under a predetermined category; and
10 storing, when judging that the data comes under the predetermined category, the locating information.

22. A method according to claim 21, further comprising
accessing a network,
15 wherein the data are stored in an information processing system on the network.

23. A method according to claim 22, further comprising:
receiving a selection criterion for selecting the data;
20 and
judging whether or not the data is coincident with the selection criterion,
wherein pieces of locating information tracing to the data coincident with the selection criterion are collected.

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24. A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
receiving specification of a selection criterion for

selecting the data; and

judging whether or not the data is coincident with the selection criterion,

wherein pieces of locating information tracing to the data
5 coincident with the selection criterion are collected.

25. A method according to claim 21, further comprising generating display information for getting the collected locating information displayed.

10 26. A method according to claim 21, further comprising displaying the collected locating information.

15 27. A method according to claim 25, further comprising searching character information related to the data, wherein the character information is displayed in a way of being combined with the locating information.

20 28. A method according to claim 21, wherein categories of the data are still image data, sound data, animated image data, text data, or combinations thereof.

25 29. A method according to claim 21, further comprising: selecting the data indicated by the locating information; giving a command to output the data; and outputting the content described by the data.

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30. A method of collecting locating information for indicating a location of data, comprising:

requesting a server on the network to collect pieces of locating information for locating where data exist, the data
5 located by the locating information coming under a predetermined category; and

receiving the locating information.

31. A method according to claim 30, further comprising
10 getting the locating information displayed,

32. A method according to claim 30, further comprising:
accepting a selection of the data indicated by the locating
information;

15 accepting a command to output the data; and
outputting the content described by the data.

33. A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
searching the data indicated by the locating information;
20 outputting the content described by the data; and
repeating steps of searching and outputting with respect
to plural pieces of locating information collected.

34. A method comprising:
25 searching content data coincident with a predetermined
condition;
determining a sequence of reproducing the content data

searched; and

controlling the reproduction of the content data in accordance with the reproducing sequence.

5 35. A storage medium readable by a machine, tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

searching locating information for locating where data exists;

10 judging whether or not the data comes under a predetermined category; and

storing, when judging that the data comes under the predetermined category, the locating information to collect the locating information for indicating the locations of the data.

15 36. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising accessing a network,

20 wherein the data are stored in an information processing system on the network.

25 37. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 36, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising: receiving a selection criterion for selecting the data; and

judging whether or not the data is coincident with the selection criterion,

wherein pieces of locating information tracing to the data coincident with the selection criterion are collected.

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38. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising:

10 accepting a input of selection criterion for selecting the data; and

judging whether or not the data is coincident with the selection criterion,

wherein pieces of locating information tracing to the data coincident with the selection criterion are collected.

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39. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising generating display information for getting the collected
20 locating information displayed.

40. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising
25 displaying the collected locating information.

41. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible

embodying a program according to claim 39, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising searching character information related to the data,

wherein the character information is displayed in a way
5 of being combined with the locating information.

42. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 35, wherein categories
of the data are still image data, sound data, animated image
10 data, text data, or combinations thereof.

43. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions
executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising:
15 accepting a selection of the data indicated by the locating
information;
accepting a command to output the data; and
outputting the content described by the data.

20 44. A storage medium readable by a machine, tangible
embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine
to perform method steps for collecting locating information for
indicating a location of data, comprising:

requesting a server on the network to collect pieces of
25 locating information for locating where data exist, the data
located by the locating information coming under a predetermined
category; and

receiving the locating information.

45. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 44, of instructions
5 executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising
getting the locating information displayed,

46. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 44, of instructions
10 executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising:
accepting a selection of the data indicated by the locating
information;
accepting a command to output the data; and
outputting the content described by the data.

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47. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 35, of instructions
executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising:
searching the data indicated by the locating information;
20 outputting the content described by the data; and
repeating steps of searching and outputting with respect
to plural pieces of locating information collected.

48. A storage medium readable by a machine, tangible
25 embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine
to perform method steps comprising:
searching content data coincident with a predetermined

condition;

determining a sequence of reproducing the content data searched; and

controlling the reproduction of the content data in
5 accordance with the reproducing sequence.

49. A method according to claim 30, further comprising:
searching the data indicated by the locating information;
outputting the content described by the data; and
10 repeating steps of searching and outputting with respect
to plural pieces of locating information collected.

50. A storage medium readable by a machine tangible
embodying a program according to claim 44, of instructions
15 executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising:
searching the data indicated by the locating information;
outputting the content described by the data; and
repeating steps of searching and outputting with respect
to plural pieces of locating information collected.